Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-138. (canceled)

139. (Currently amended) A method of assembling an animated image for display; said method comprising the steps of: selecting a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; specifying a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; specifying at least one animation property from a number of available animation properties for at least one part image in said set of part images, each animation property being associated with an animation parameter value; allowing the animation parameter value for the at least one animation property to be varied; and displaying each part image on a device with limited processing capabilities according to the specifications to assemble said animated image.

140. (Previously presented) A method, according to claim 139, wherein said step of specifying an animation property for each at least one part image in said set of part images comprises the step of specifying at least one of: a color of each part image in said set of part images; a texture of each part image in said set of part images; a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images; an orientation of each part image in said set of part images; a size of each part image in said set of part images; a transparency of each part image in said set of part images; a direction of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a type of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a speed of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a time to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; and a viewpoint.

141. (Previously presented) A method, according to claim 139 or claim 140, comprising the step of providing, in the form of a text message, at least one of: the selection of the set of part images from among a plurality of part images; the specification of the position to be occupied in the display; and the specification of the animation property for each at least one part image in said

set of part images.

142. (Previously presented) A method, according to claim 141, comprising the step of compacting codes used to represent the selections.

143. (Original) A method, according to claim 139 or claim 140, comprising the step of receiving the specifications as an appendage to a text message.

144. (Original) A method, according to claim 139 or claim 140, comprising the step of obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

145. (Original) A method, according to claim 141, comprising the step of obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

146. (Original) A method, according to claim 144, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

147. (Original) A method, according to claim 139 or claim 140, comprising the step of displaying the image on at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone.

148. (Original) A method, according to claim 141, comprising the step of displaying the image on at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone.

149. (Currently amended) A method for transmitting an animated image, said method comprising the steps of: sending a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; sending a signal to specify a position, to be occupied in a display, for each part image in said set of part images; sending a signal to specify at least one animation property from a number of available animation properties for at least one part image in said set of part images, each animation property being associated with an animation parameter value; and sending a signal to vary the animation parameter value for the at least one animation property; wherein each signal

is transmitted via a communications channel with limited bandwidth.

150. (Previously presented) A method, according to claim 149, wherein the step of sending a specification of the animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images comprises the step of sending a specification of at least one of: a color of each part image in said set of part images; a texture of each part image in said set of part images; a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images; an orientation of each part image in said set of part images; a size of each part image in said set of part images; a transparency of each part image in said set of part images; a direction of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a type of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a speed of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a time to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; and a specification of a viewpoint.

151. (Previously presented) A method, according to claims 149 or 150, comprising the step of sending, in the form of a text message, at least one of: the specification of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; the specification of a position, to be occupied in the display; and the specification of the animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images.

152. (Original) A method, according to claim 151, comprising the step of sending said specification as an appendage to a text message.

153. (Previously presented) A method, according to claims 149 or claim 150, comprising the step of obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

154. (Original) A method, according to claim 152, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

155. (Previously presented) A method, according to claims 149 or 150, comprising the step of displaying said image on at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile

telephone.

156. (Previously presented) A method, according to claim 151, comprising the step of displaying said image on at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone.

157. (Currently amended) A method for receiving and assembling an animated image, said method comprising the steps of: receiving a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; receiving a signal to specify a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; receiving a signal to specify at least one animation property from a number of available animation properties for at least one part image in said set of part images, each animation property being associated with an animation parameter value; receiving a signal to vary the animation parameter value for the at least one animation property; and responding to the signals to assemble and display the image specified on a device with limited processing capabilities.

158. (Previously presented) A method, according to claim 157, wherein the step of receiving a specification of the animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images comprises the step of receiving a specification of at least one of: a color of each part image in said set of part images; a texture of each part image in said set of part images; a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images; an orientation of each part image in said set of part images; a size of each part image in said set of part images; a transparency of each part image in said set of part images; a direction of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a type of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a speed of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a time to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; a times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; and a specification of a viewpoint.

159. (Previously presented) A method, according to claim 157 or 158, comprising the step of receiving, in the form of a text message, at least one of: the selection of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; the specification of a position, to be occupied in the display; and the specification of the animation property for at least one part image in said set of part

images.

160. (Original) A method, according to claim 159, comprising the step of receiving the specifications as compacted codes.

161. (Original) A method, according to claim 157 or claim 158, comprising the step of obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

162. (Original) A method, according to claim 161, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

163. (Original) A method, according to claim 157 or 158, comprising the step of displaying the image on at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone.

164. (Original) A method, according to claim 160, comprising the step of displaying the image on at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone.

165. (Original) A method, according to claims 157 or claim 158, comprising the step of receiving the specifications as an appendage to a text message.

166. (Currently amended) An apparatus for assembling an animated image for display; said apparatus comprising: means for selecting a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; means for specifying a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; means for specifying at least one animation property from a number of available animation properties for at least one part image in said set of part images, each animation property being associated with an animation parameter value; means for varying the animation parameter value for the at least one animation property; and means for displaying each part image a device with limited processing capabilities according to the specifications to assemble said animated image.

167. (Previously presented) An apparatus, according to claim 166, wherein said means for

specifying an animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images comprises means for specifying at least one of: a color of each part image in said set of part images; a texture of each part image in said set of part images; a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images; an orientation of each part image in said set of part images; a size of each part image in said set of part images; a transparency of each part image in said set of part images; a direction of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a type of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a speed of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a time to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; a times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images: and a viewpoint.

168. (Previously presented) An apparatus, according to claim 166 or 167, comprising means for providing, in the form of a text message, at least one of: the selection of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; the specification of a position, to be occupied in the display; and the specification of the animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images.

169. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 168, comprising means for employing compacting codes to represent said selections.

170. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 166 or 167, comprising means for obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

171. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 170, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

172. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 166 or 167, comprising at least one of a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone for displaying said image.

173. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 168, comprising at least one of a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone for displaying said image.

174. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 166 or 167, comprising means for receiving said specification as an appendage to a text message.

175. (Currently amended) An apparatus for transmitting an animated image, said apparatus comprising: means for sending a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; means for sending a signal to specify a position, to be occupied in a display, for each part image in said set of part images; means for sending a signal to specify at least one animation property from a number of available animation properties for at least one part image in said set of part images, each animation property being associated with an animation parameter value; and means to send a signal to vary the animation parameter value for the at least one animation property; wherein each signal is transmitted via a communications channel with limited bandwidth.

176. (Previously presented) An apparatus, according to claim 175, wherein said means for sending a signal to specify an animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images comprises means for sending a signal to specify at least one of: a color of each part image in said set of part images; a texture of each part image in said set of part images; a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images; an orientation of each part image in said set of part images; a size of each part image in said set of part images; a transparency of each part image in said set of part images; a direction of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a type of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a speed of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a time to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; a times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; and a viewpoint.

177. (Previously presented) An apparatus, according to claim 175 or 176, comprising means to provide a text message for selecting at least one of: the selection of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; the specification of a position, to be occupied in the display; and the specification of the animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images.

178. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 177, comprising means for providing said signals as compacting codes.

179. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 175 or 176, comprising means for obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

180. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 179, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

181. (Original) An apparatus, according to claims 175 or 176, comprising at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone for displaying the image.

182. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 177, comprising at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone for displaying the image.

183. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 175 or 176, comprising means for receiving signals, representative of specifications, as an appendage to a text message.

184. (Currently amended) An apparatus for receiving and creating an animated image, said apparatus comprising: means for receiving a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; means for receiving a signal for specifying a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; means for receiving a signal to specify at least one animation property from a number of available animation properties for at least one part image in said set of part images, each animation property being associated with an animation parameter value; means for receiving a signal to vary the animation parameter value for the at least one animation property; and means, responsive to said signals, for assembling and displaying a specified image on a device with limited processing capabilities.

185. (Previously presented) An apparatus, according to claim 184, wherein said means for receiving a signal to specify an animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images comprises means to receive a signal to specify at least one of: the color of each part

image in said set of part images; a texture of each part image in said set of part images; a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images; an orientation of each part image in said set of part images; a size of each part image in said set of part images; a transparency of each part image in said set of part images; a direction of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a type of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a speed of movement of each part image in said set of part images; a time to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; a times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images; and a viewpoint.

186. (Previously presented) An apparatus, according to claim 184 or 185, comprising means for receiving a text message for selecting at least one of: the selection of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; the specification of a position, to be occupied in the display; and the specification of the animation property for at least one part image in said set of part images.

187. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 186, comprising means for receiving signals to provide said specifications as compacted codes.

188. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 184 or 185, comprising means for obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

189. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 188, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

190. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 184 or claim 185, comprising at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone for displaying the image.

191. (Original) An apparatus, according to claim 186, comprising at least one of: a computer; a personal digital assistant; and a mobile telephone for displaying the image.